

**Multi-type Reference Group
Minutes
Wednesday, May 13, 2015
La Salle Academy Library**

Members Present: Heidi Blais (Cranston East), Patricia Brennan (RIC), Melissa Chiavaroli (Cumberland), Andrea Hajian (La Salle), Amanda Izenstark (URI), Maura Keating (Bryant), Alicia Waters (OLIS)

Members Absent: Jane Granatino (Barrington), Mary Zammarelli (St. Joseph), Lisa Zawadzki (Cranston)

News/Announcements: Alicia reported that a new vendor has been hired and deliveries will resume the week of May 26. The children's Read Across RI program was held this past Saturday, May 9 with 400 children attending and Kate DiCamillo as speaker.

Heidi had a student teacher from URI this past semester and was able to complete many projects in the library.

Melissa will be presenting "Marketing 101" at the RILA Conference. She is also continuing her Dewey-hybrid project at the Cumberland library.

Tish is in the process of reducing RIC's collection by 25-30% and replacing reference books in electronic form when possible and within budget constraints. The Assistant Professorship search is down to 4 finalists from an original pool of 80 candidates.

Maura reported that Bryant is adopting the OCLC catalog. She is also involved with ILART and the high school to college transition. Next year, the library will be embedded in 2 courses utilizing virtual components.

Amanda reported the URI is in the final stages of hiring a new library Dean and the decision is now in the hands of the provost. The new catalog will launch in about a month coinciding with the start of the summer Talent Development Program. Construction on the active learning classroom began in April.

Andrea reported the library is busy gearing up for the new middle school which will include 3 sixth, 3 seventh and 2 eighth grade classrooms.

Discussion of April 27 Program Feedback: Alicia reported that only 9 attendees completed the conference feedback survey. The respondents had many positive comments. A common recommendation was to increase the discussion times for breakout sessions.

Discussion of Programming Ideas/Sharing Sessions for the Future: The group discussed a possible future program: Tech Help at Your Library. The group brainstormed possible libraries that are addressing tech help:

Public: Barrington, Cranston, East Providence (Catherine Damiani), Providence (DigiCamp with Doug @ PPL)

School: Chariho (Mary Moen), West Warwick (Kelly Inman & Jackie Lameroux, Cranston (Heidi Blais)

Academic: Bryant (Laptop Central) and RIC (software support)

Special: Madge Boldt or Rebecca Armitage

Another suggested idea was Open Source Alternatives to Paid Services (Ex. RefWorks vs. Zotero, Delicious vs. LibGuides (Maura), Microsoft Office vs. Open Office/Google Drive).

Based on the feedback from the April conference, the group suggested the following format: 15-25 minute talks: public, school, special, academic and then one longer breakout session (30-40 minutes), divided by library type.

There was some discussion about attracting more school librarians to the conference. Some suggestions: offer CEUs for school librarians (perhaps partner with RILINK), have a school librarian present and change timing of conference (October/early November or January).

Chairs/Co-Chairs for 2015-2016: Jane had informed Alicia that she would be interested in co-chairing the group. Melissa agreed to co-chair the group with Jane. The co-chairs will serve a 2-year term.

Farewells/Replacements: The group thanked Andrea for her service. Alicia reported that Mary will also be leaving the group. Two school librarian replacements are needed and the group suggested Darshell Silva (Rocky Hill) and Jen Thomas (Cuffee). Two special librarians are needed and the group suggested someone from the Providence Athenaeum, Amanda Richman (RIH) and Jennifer Robinson (Newport Historical). Alicia will reach out to the candidates and have replacements ready for the September meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 16 at 2:30 p.m. at OLIS.